



**For immediate release  
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## **DCR COSPONSORING HERITAGE LANDSCAPE INVENTORY WORKSHOPS**

The Department of Conservation and Recreation is cosponsoring four free, public workshops this spring to help towns and cities learn how to protect significant landscape features and preserve their community's character for generations to come.

The workshops in Sutton, Oxford, Dudley, and Douglas are also being cosponsored by the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission and the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor Inc. Each workshop has its own theme, and local historical commission members, selectmen, conservation commission members, municipal employees, and landowners are particularly encouraged to attend.

"The Heritage Landscape Inventory Program is an important part of the mission of this agency," said DCR Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr. "We are enormously pleased to be able to help individual communities preserve and protect the history that makes each of them unique."

DCR's Heritage Landscape Inventory Program helps communities identify and document their historic landscapes and develop strategies to preserve them. To date, the agency has worked with 96 communities across the Commonwealth. Heritage landscapes can include working farms, town commons, village centers, cemeteries, historic mill sites, and scenic roads – the many places that help define the character of communities.

"The Heritage Landscape Inventory identified hundreds of significant, yet vulnerable, landscapes throughout the Blackstone and Quinebaug-Shetucket Valleys," said Jan Reitsma, executive director of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. "Through these workshops, citizens will learn what they can do to protect these special places."

"We don't have to let fate dictate development patterns in our communities," said Charlene Perkins Cutler, executive director of the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor. "These workshops will provide the tools for taking meaningful steps today to preserve the special character of our communities for future generations."

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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Deval L. Patrick  
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Timothy P. Murray  
Lt. Governor

Ian A. Bowles, Secretary, Executive  
Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner  
Department of Conservation & Recreation

To attend a workshop, participants should RSVP at least two days in advance by contacting Joanna Doherty of the Blackstone Heritage Corridor (joanna\_doherty@nps.gov or 401-762-0250) or Bob Levite of the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor (boble vite@hotmail.com or 508-831-1223, ext. 244). Below are details on each upcoming workshop.

**WHAT: “Local Measures to Protect Historic Resources”**

A discussion of several particularly effective, locally initiated tools to protect historic buildings, landscapes, and neighborhoods, including Local Historic Districts and Demolition Delay bylaws.

**WHO:** Presented by Christopher Skelly, director of local government programs for the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

**WHERE:** Sutton Town Hall  
4 Uxbridge Road  
Sutton

**WHEN:** Wednesday  
May 14, 2008  
6:30-8:30 p.m.

**WHAT: “The Community Preservation Act: Strategies for Success”**

Discuss the benefits of the Community Preservation Act, a powerful tool for historic preservation, open space protection, affordable housing, and recreational opportunities, and strategies for a successful CPA campaign.

**WHO:** Presented by Kathy Roth, associate director of the Community Preservation Coalition.

**WHERE:** Oxford Community Center  
4 Maple Road  
Oxford

**WHEN:** Thursday  
May 29, 2008  
6:30-8:30 p.m.

**WHAT: “Smart Growth and Preservation”**

The “smart growth” approach to development focuses on sustainability, in part through zoning mechanisms that encourage concentrated development and support existing settlement patterns. Learn about two smart-growth tools: Smart Growth Zoning and Village Center Zoning.

**WHO:** Presented by Eric Hove, acting director of land use policy for the state Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and Bill Reyelt, smart

growth program coordinator for the state Department of Housing and Community Development.

**WHERE:** Dudley Municipal Complex  
71 West Main Street  
Dudley

**WHEN:** Thursday  
June 5  
6:30-8:30 p.m.

**WHAT:** **“What About Open Space? Balancing Development and Preservation”**  
Discuss two tools that can help communities balance growth with preservation: open space residential design and transfer of development rights.

**WHO:** Presented by Eric Hove, acting director of land use policy for the state Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

**WHERE:** Douglas Municipal Center  
29 Depot Street  
Douglas

**WHEN:** Thursday  
June 12, 2008  
6:30-8:30 p.m.

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*The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, and dams, in addition to 278 bridges and miles of roadways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency’s mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr). Contact us at [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us).*